

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims.

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A light control system for a film viewer comprising:
  - an infrared emitter;
  - [[a]] an infrared detector disposed adjacent to the infrared emitter and configured to detect infrared emissions from the infrared emitter; and
  - a microprocessor configured to control a light in response to a change in the detected infrared emissions resulting from one of an insertion of a film between the infrared emitter and the infrared detector and a removal of a film from between the emitter and the detector, wherein the microprocessor is further configured to determine a type of film, selected from the group consisting of opaque, transparent and optically clear, interposed between the infrared emitter and infrared detector in response to the change in the detected infrared emissions.
2. (currently amended) The light control system of claim 1 wherein the microprocessor is configured to energize the light in response to a decrease in the detected infrared emissions resulting from the insertion of a film between the infrared emitter and the infrared detector.
3. (currently amended) The light control system of claim 1 wherein the microprocessor is configured to deenergize the light in response to an increase in the detected infrared emissions resulting from the removal of a film between the infrared emitter and the infrared detector.
4. (original) The light control system of claim 1 further comprising a manual dimming control.
5. (cancelled)

6. (original) The light control system of claim 1 wherein the infrared emitter is an infrared LED.
7. (cancelled)
8. (cancelled)
9. (currently amended) A film viewer comprising:
  - a housing;
  - a light;
  - an infrared emitter;
  - [[a]] an infrared detector adjacent the infrared emitter and configured to detect infrared emissions from the infrared emitter; and
  - a microprocessor configured to detect a change in infrared emissions detected by the infrared detector when a film is interposed between the infrared emitter and the infrared detector, and further configured to energize the light in response to the detected change in emissions in response to an optically clear film being interposed between the infrared emitter and infrared detector.
10. (original) The film viewer of claim 9 further comprising a manual dimming control.
11. (cancelled)
12. (currently amended) The film viewer of claim 9 wherein the infrared detector is in optical communication with the infrared emitter.
13. (original) The film viewer of claim 9 further comprising a film holding mechanism including a series of rollers interposed between a housing portion and a viewing screen, wherein the housing portion is contoured to direct the rollers toward the screen as the rollers move in response to gravity within the mechanism.
14. (original) The film viewer of claim 13 further comprising a length of resilient tubing within the contoured housing portion, wherein the tubing directs the rollers toward the screen.

15. (currently amended) A method of controlling illumination in a film viewer, the method comprising:

emitting a detectable infrared emission with an infrared emitter;  
detecting a level of infrared emissions received by [[a]] an infrared detector;  
determining a change in the detected level of infrared emissions; and  
automatically controlling a light source in the film viewer in response to the determined change in the detected level of infrared emissions exceeding a preselected value, the preselected value corresponding to a change in the detected level of infrared emissions smaller than a change in the detected level of infrared emissions corresponding to infrared emissions passing through an optically clear film.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the step of determining a change in the detected level of emissions includes:

determining a running sum average of a predetermined number of detected levels of infrared emissions; and  
determining a difference between the determined running sum average and a previously determined running sum average.

17. (original) The method of claim 16 further comprising storing the previously determined running sum average in response to the determined difference between the determined running sum average and a previously determined running sum average exceeding the preselected value.

18. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of automatically controlling a light source includes energizing a light source in response to a subsequently determined running sum average being less than the stored running sum average minus the preselected value.

19. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of automatically controlling a light source includes deenergizing a light source in response to a subsequently determined running sum average being greater than the stored running sum average plus the preselected value.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the step of detecting a level of infrared emissions received by a detector occurs every 5 milliseconds.